27th March 1954]

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, if the local product is as efficacious as the foreign product, there is nothing wrong in preventing import of foreign product."

MR. SPEAKER :—" We have got only 15 minutes and we have to cover 25 questions. I pass on to the next question."

Handloom Development Schemes.

* 428 *Q.*—SRI D. DASARATHAN (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are financing any Handloom Development Schemes in the State;

(*b*) whether the Government have recommended the schemes to the Central Government, requesting financial aid from the Centre; and

(*c*) the estimated cost and the number of schemes approved by the Central Government?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir.

" (*c*) The attention of the member is invited to the answer to question No. 71 (starred) by the hon. Member Sri N. K. Palaniswamy, which was placed on the table of the House."

Reduction of assessments of poramboke lands leased out for soaking coconut husks.

* 429 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to reduce the rate of assessment in respect of poramboke lands leased out for soaking coconut husks in Malabar district?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government have no such proposal under consideration."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the assessment of these poramboke lands was raised from Rs. 2–8–0 to Rs. 50 some one or two years back and in view of the great depression in the coir industry, may I request the Government to reconsider the matter and reduce the assessment? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" It was already reduced by 25 per cent and the District Collector is given discretion to reduce it as and when there is need for it."

Representation to bring the Rasipuram Weavers' Society within the scope of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act.

* 430 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member, Sri K. R. Viswanathan, is not in his place. The answer to the question will be printed in the proceedings."